GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:447
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
DECLINE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural production mainly wheat and rice has come down drastically during the year 2000-01;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to arrest this trend in the coming years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): The production of wheat and rice during 2000-01 was considerably lower than that in 1999-2000 as is evident from the statement given below:

Production of wheat and rice (in million tonnes)

Crop	1999-2000	2000-01	% fall in 2000-01 over 1999-2000
Wheat	76.37	68.76	9.96%
Rice	89.68	84.87	5.36%

However, the production of both wheat and the rice in the country shows a long-term upward trend.

(c): In order to improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have launched various new initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Network and National Agriculture Insurance Schemeetc. Besides, the Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which include implementation of Minimum Support Price procurement by public agencies. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complementing the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-round development of agriculture.